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DOCUMENTS RELATING TO PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BANGOR ASSOCIATION.

AT a meeting held in the Church at Bangor, on Thursday, the 27th of January, 1814, the Hon. Robt. Ward being called to the chair, was addressed by Mr. Cleland, of Rathgill House, in nearly the following words.

"Mr. Chairman,

"I believe it is well known by those who are present at this meeting, that the depredations committed in this parish have increased rapidly. That the facility with which offenders escape punishment is a great encouragement to crime; and that the only means to deter the profligate and idle from plundering their industrious and more affluent neighbours, is to enforce a strict and vigorous administration of the law. A great number of offenders escape punishment from the indolence of the persons injured; others from a false principle of lenity; many from the fear of malice, revenge, and incurring ill-will; and the much greater number from the expenses attending a prosecution. From the obervations I have made for many years in my duty as a magistrate, I believe I may with some degree of accuracy state, that not more than one in ten of the perpetrators of the offences committed are discovered; that of those discovered, not more than one fifth are prosecuted; and of those prosecuted, not more than one half are convicted: if my calculation is correct, the chances are ninety-nine to one in favour of the offender. Can we be surprised, when the temptation is so great, and the fear of punishment so remote, that our property is frequently plundered? To give facility to the discovery of offenders, and to obviate the difficulties that exist in bringing them to justice, it has been proposed to form an association in the parish of Bangor. I have drawn the outlines of a plan for that purpose, which I should not have ventured to produce here, if it had not first met the approbation of yourself, and several other gentlemen of this parish, and particularly of a gentleman of long experience as a magistrate, (Mr. Crawford, of Crawford's-burn,) who has has long devoted his time, his talents, and property, on every occasion that occurred, for rendering benefit to this parish. With this sanction, I will propose that an association be formed in this parish for the purpose of detecting and prosecuting all offenders against the persons or property of the members of this association, to be denominated "The Bangor Association."

This proposal being approved, Mr. Cleland moved the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

"1st, Resolved, That all persons paying cess in this parish are eligible to become members of this association, if they think proper, and to partake of its benefits while they conform to the regulations agreed to at the general meeetings.

"2d, Resolved, That if any injury is committed on the person or property of any member of this association, the most active measures shall be taken for discovering and apprehending the offender or offenders, and prosecuting him or them to conviction, at the expense of the association.

"3d, Resolved, That a fund shall be raised by a cess on the members of the association, (similar to a parish cess,) according to the number of acres they are charged in the applotment of the parish; the amount per acre to be determined by the Committee.

"4th, Resolved, That John Crawford, Esq. be appointed Treasurer, and the Rev. Mr. Woods Secretary to this association for the present year.

"5th, Resolved, That the following persons, together with the treasurer and secretary, are appointed a committee to manage the business of the association for the present year, viz the Right Hon. Lord Dufferin, the Right Hon. Robert Ward, the Rev. Stephen Dickson, David Ker and James Cleland, Esqrs., Messrs. Wm. Nicholson, James Savage, Alexander M'Culloch, George Hannay, and Stewart Bell.

"6th, Resolved, that any three of the Committee, including the treasurer and secretary, shall be competent to transact the business of this association.

"7th, Resolved, That every member of this association do hereby pledge himself to give information and to use his best endeavours to discover and apprehend any offender or offenders that have committed any injury to the person or property of a member of this association.

"8th, Resolved, That if any member of this association shall compromise any injury, or refuse to prosecute, unless with the consent of the Committee, he shall forfeit all his rights and privileges in this association.

"9th, Resolved, That if any member of this association shall neglect or refuse to pay his proportion of the cess as ordered by the Committee. he shall forfeit all his rights and privileges in this association.

"10th, Resolved, That the following persons are appointed conservators of the peace, for the present year, for the purpose of assisting and giving the necessary information to the committee, to enable them to carry into effect the intention of this association, viz.

Bangor and the Demesne.	Thomas Brownrigg.
	John Stevenson.
	James Halliday.
Ballymagee,	Nevin Lamont.
Ballycormick,	John Agnew.
Ballyholme,	John White.
Groomsport,	James Andrews.
Ballow, Juxta Mare,	Wm. Agnew.
Orlogh,	Wm. Aird.
Portavo	John M'Cracken.
Ballyfotherly,	Robert Brown.
Cottown,	Samuel Dodds.
Granehaw,	Thomas Claney.
Ballygrainey,	John Claney.
Ballycroghan,	James Russel.
Ballyclamper,	Wm. Claney.
Ballymenetra,	James Finlay.
Ballymaconnell,	James Lowry.
Ballyree,	Andrew Lamont.
Ballow,	John Patterson.
Rathgill,	John Hannay.
Lisban.	Samuel M'Burney.
Conlig,	Joseph Miller, jun.
Ballysallogh, major,	Robert Gelston.
Ballysallogh, minor,	Daniel Robb.
Ballygilbert,	Nevin Taylor.
Ballygrote,	Adam Finlay.
Ballykillare,	John Bell.
Carnilea,	James Davison.
Ballywilley,	Dr. Jackson.
Ballymullan,	John Finlay.
Ballyleidy,	John M'Gowan.
Ballyvarnet,	John Dennison.

"11th, Resolved, That the treasurer shall with the approbation of any two of the Committee, offer and pay rewards for information, or apprehending offenders against this association; and shall also employ attorney and counsel if requisite, and pay every necessary expense attending the prosecuting of offenders.

"12th. Resolved, That as injuries are frequently sustained by persons having very little property, and from their inability to prosecute, the offenders escape with impunity; it is agreed that on the recommendation of the Magistrate before whom the complaint shall be made, the

Committee shall take the case into consideration, and if they think fit, take the same steps as if the person aggrieved was a member of this association.

"13th, Resolved, That as there are some persons of property who do not pay parish cess, and may wish to belong to this association, they may be admitted on applying to the committee, and paying such proportionate sum as the committee may direct.

"14th, Resolved, That whenever the treasurer shall find it necessary to encrease the fund, he shall inform the secretary, who shall call a meeting of the committee, to settle the accounts, of whom five shall be competent to act, and then, if they think it necessary, call a general meeting."

The Right Hon. Robert Ward having left the chair, the Rev. Mr. Dickson was voted in the chair, and thanks were returned to the Right Hon. Robert Ward, for attending the meeting, and for his conduct as chairman, in explaining the purpose, and advantages likely to arise from the association.

N.B. The committee intend drawing up instructions for the conservators.

ADDRESS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

To his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Regent of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; the humble, dutiful, and loyal Address of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled.

May it please your Royal Highness,

We, his Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council assembled, humbly approach your Royal Highness, to offer our warmest congratulations upon the brilliant successes of the allied armies, and on those glorious and most important events which have unfolded to the British nation and all Europe the most cheering and animating prospects.

We had never ceased to feel and deplore with the suffering nations of the Continent the dreadful calamities attendant upon a bloody and devastating war; we had also long contemplated with the deepest regret, the want of a union of object in its prosecution, and had ardently desired to witness the adoption of those just, liberal, and enlightened principles which have recently been so honourably avowed, and so ably and successfully pursued.

We therefore viewed with the highest admiration the firm, temperate, and magnanimous declaration issued by the Allied Powers, upon entering the French territory; wherein they declared "that they did not make war upon France, but against that preponderance which, to the misfortune of Europe and France, the Emperor Napoleon had too long exercised beyond the limits of his empire;" and expressed their desire "that France should be great, powerful, and happy, because the French power, in a state of greatness and strength, is one of the foundations of the social edifice of Europe;" a declaration so perfectly consonant with that made by your Royal Highness to Parliament, "that no disposition to require from France sacrifices inconsistent with her honour, or just pretensions as a nation, would ever, on the part of your Royal Highness, or of his Majesty's Allies, be an obstacle to peace."

The promulgation of these pure and generous principles, and the union, fidelity and energy with which they have been acted upon, dissipated the apprehensions and called forth the esteem and confidence of the French nation, who, with a coolness, promptitude, and decision, suitable to the great emergency, declared the tyranny at an end, and proceeded to form a plan of future government on the model of our own excellent constitution, and which, we trust, by placing just limits to the executive authority, and by securing the civil and religious rights of the subject, the prerogatives of the Crown and the privileges of the people will be clearly ascertained and permanently established.

We congratulate your Royal Highness on the spontaneous invitation given by the French people to the head of the ancient dynasty to ascend the throne, presenting a happy omen that by this event internal union will be established, and a termination at length put to those convulsions which have agitated Europe, and we doubt not that that illustrious House, deeply penetrated with its restoration to the confidence of the French people, will, by its mild and paternal sway, consult its lasting honour and happiness, by respecting the rights, promot-